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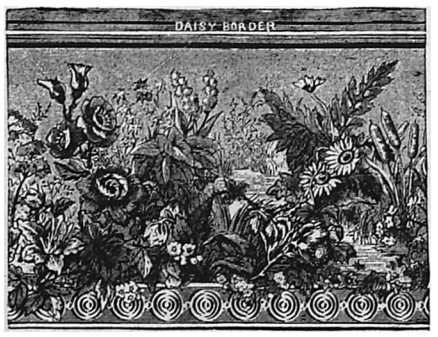

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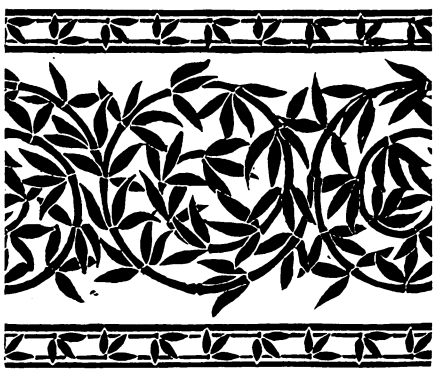

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AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

"ROUND THE WORLD" is the title of a volume recounting the interesting incidents of a pleasure trip made by Andrew Carnegie, starting from New York City, taking in the West, and thence to Japan, China, India and Europe. The account of places with which we have only a passing acquaintance is clear and entertaining, a few pages devoted to each city or point visited expresses more than chapters in other works that we have read, for the language is good and the descriptions are vivid. The superstitions of India are shown with all the terrible possibilities of their influence, the historical irresponsibilities of hymns and the very peculiar mistakes of missionaries is very cleverly referred to in a chapter on Ceylon. The reply of the Ceylonese to Mr. Carnegie's explanation of the idea entertained of his countrymen by Christian nations, was good; he said: "Your country must be very curious and the people very queer."

A great deal of the information given will be new to the majority of the readers, and all of it is valuable.

The visit to China, in particular, is enjoyable, and the habits of these people of the antipodes are very thoroughly gone into. Mr. Carnegie answers, unconsciously, his own query "why don't they have railroads in China?" when he adds that it would offer grand opportunities for English engineers. The Chinamen have the disposition to saddle this sort of despotism upon themselves, and wisely refrain from so-called improvements until they can handle them personally.

There are a few slips which are so slight as to be noticed only that they may be easily avoided in another work. The author prepares the reader for a "glowing account" of the Taj Mahal, and several chapters later the "account" is reached and the sentiment is too deliberate and too premeditated to make the impression that the subject really deserves. Any one who has seen the building can appreciate spontaneous enthusiam, and Mr. Carnegie should be willing to rest upon his descriptive abilities without invading the field of the female novelist. The statement in the preface that the work is given to the public at the earnest solicitation of the publishers, is rather hackneyed and hardly in keeping with so excellent a book. (Scribners Sons, N. Y.)

THE natural curiosities of this country, the wonderful growth of plants and trees, and the abnormal massiveness of boulder prove far more interesting, and properly so, to visiting strangers than the contemplation of our unique civilization or characteristic politics. The magnificent scenery of The West is the theme of travelers, and the "big trees" of California have been written and talked about all over the world. A pamphlet sent us by Mr. Robert S. Walker, 60 Liberty Street, who is the Eastern agent of a California lumber company, is entitled "The Redwoods of California," and contains a most entertaining and instructive description of the forests where is cut the lumber that we have been so long accustomed to see in shingles upon our eastern cottages. Aside from the reading matter in this little book there are ten unusually fine photographic illustrations of the forests, showing its natural wild condition, the process of felling the trees, and other phases of their transformation into building woods. The concluding illustration shows a house built entirely of red wood, and oiled in place of painted.

ANOTHER volume of that very interesting series of works on forests and their historical bearing upon modern forest preservation or utilization, we have received from the publishers, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, Scotland. The series is the work of John Croumlie Brown, L.L.D., and while it pretends to be merely practical and useful, it is at the same moment highly interesting, and contains a vast array of facts which make it valuable in a variety of ways. The present number is entitled an introduction to the study of modern forest economy, and treats directly of the distinction of ancient forests with the effect upon those of modern times, and devotes a second part to the consideration of the preservation of the forests of to-day. Every aid should be extended to any one who will endeavor to arrest the reckless destruction of forests, especially as it is indulged in in this country, and it would be desirable if the American people could read these volumes of Dr. Brown, and act intelligently upon the subject.

WE have received the following announcement: Mr. Clarence Cook respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has taken editorial charge of the Art-journal, "The Studio." The first number of the new series will be published on Saturday, August 2, 1884.

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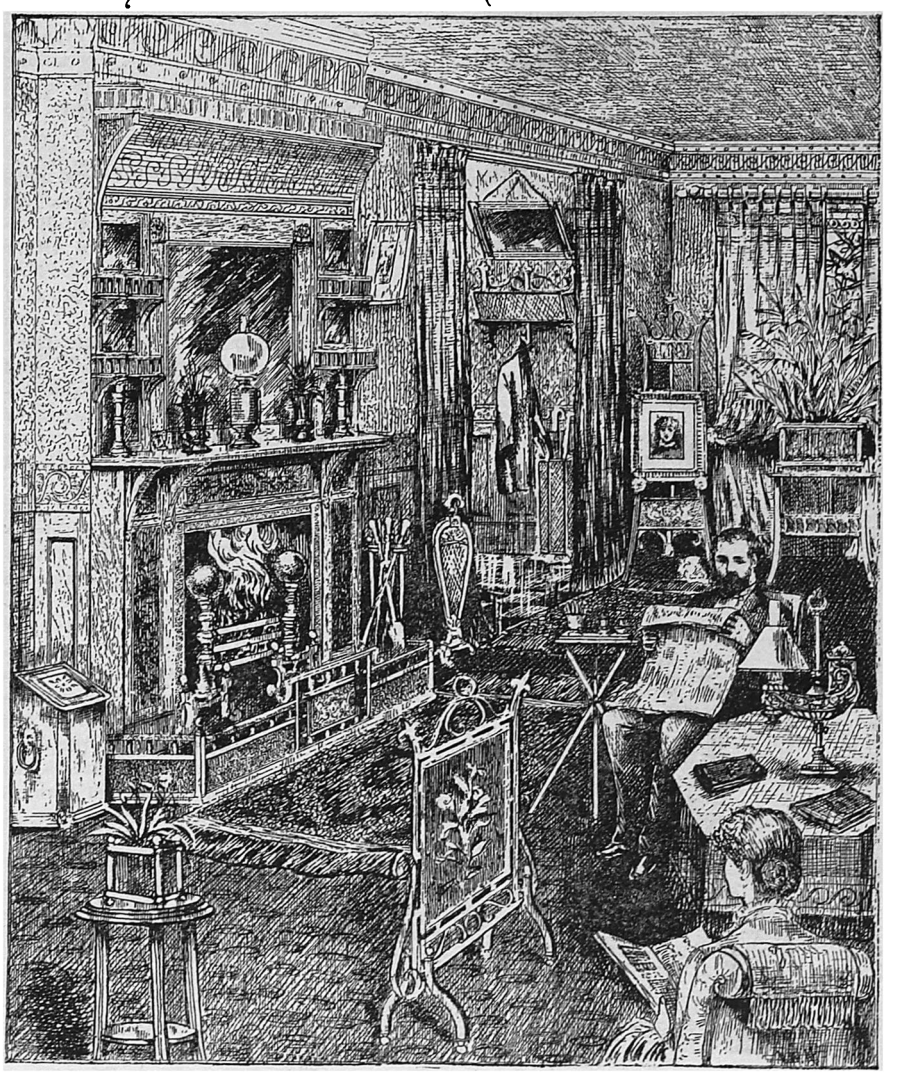

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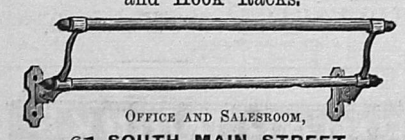
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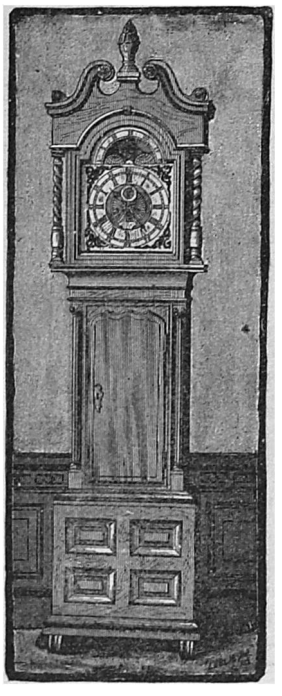
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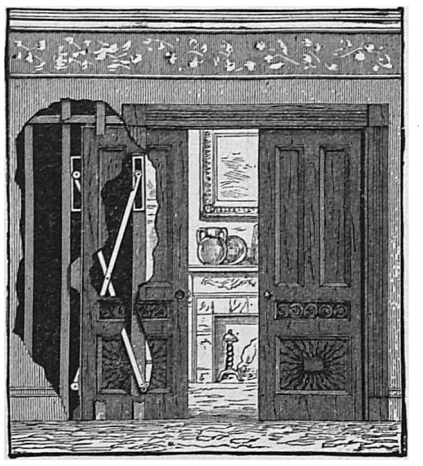
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AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

It is a question whether the tendency for Japanese fashions is to extend further than the simple adornment of our houses, or possibly the still simpler adornment of our person. We have long been accustomed to look with favor upon any and all things coming to us with the illegible and spider-track lettering or bearing the symbol of the sacred Fusiyama, they have been received with open arms, having been made a part and parcel of ourselves and of our daily life.

Thus prepared for anything, we receive a Japanese romance, an historical tale translated from the original of Tameraga Shunsui by Edward Greey of New York, and published by G. P. Putnam Sons, under the title of "The Royal Ronins." It is a tale of the kingly successions of Japan and their troublous times.

The book is interesting and particularly so as an instance of literary work done in a country whose volumes are not often translated into the English tongue.

Stories by American Authors, Vol. III, has just been issued by Charles Scribners Sons, and is a worthy successor to the preceding volumes. Brander Matthews contributes a sketch entitled Venetian Glass, which has never been published heretofore, while Mrs. Burnett, Celia Thaxter, George Parsons Lathrop and others complete the work. It is needless for us to repeat our good words for this series which Messrs. Scribner are publishing, for the library of the careful or even the ordinary reader it will be a most entertaining and desirable addition. The volumes issued thus far show that short stories are among the best from American authors.

The Manhattan for July is beyond question the very best issue of this magazine. An article upon "Fair Verona" is beautifully illustrated, and a review of the life of Arthur O'Shaughnessy is most interesting. Mrs. Martha J. Lamb writes of the beauties of Riverside Park, and Frank Vincent, Jr., has an opportune chapter on White Elephants. There are a number of other articles equally good and equally seasonable. This magazine improves with every number, and we have really come to an appreciation of the new cover; we like the Greek girl reading a Latin book and sitting upon a Renaissance bench.

In Harpers Magazine for July is this excellent paragraph: "The advantages of school-of-art culture and the revival of taste, are seen not only in the latest forms of domestic decoration, but in many recent efforts in the way of architecture as applied to the commonest purposes. Every railway station or depot at which the train stops by underground to Harrow, is a red brick picture, a modest adaptation of "Old Kensington" to the most practical purposes. Platforms, waiting rooms, ticket offices, the buildings generally are constructed with an eye to beauty as well as usefulness.

The Atlantic Monthly for July is one of the best of the year. The Roman Singer has been concluded and issued in book form, and the continued story now being given is that most excellent one by Weir Mitchell, entitled "In War Time." With this attraction there are a number of short tales and a characteristic fine poem by I. B. Aldrich. "The Haunts of Gallileo" is of unusual interest, and gives many facts in connection with this man that will be entirely new to the average reader, and "The Underworld of Homer, Virgil and Dante" evidences considerable thought and study.—(Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston).

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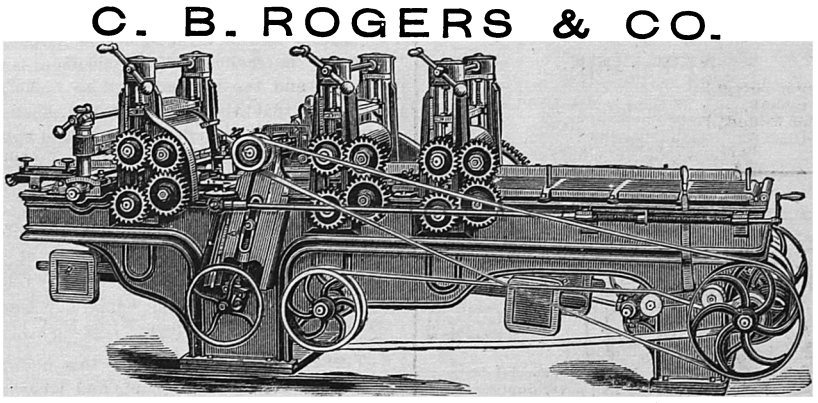
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